

54671

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

Date: 4/20/99 10:39 AM
 Sender: tHe OrAcLe <imonroe@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu>
 To: 9-NPRM-CMTS
 cc: imonroe@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu
 Priority: Normal
 Subject: comments on the CAPS system..

99 MAY -4 PM 3:09

Although one comes to expect government agencies to be invasive, it consistently surprises me to see what lengths that federal agencies in this country disregard the basic civil liberties that United States citizens are supposed to enjoy. I read today in Wired News that the FAA is planning on spending \$2.3 BILLION tax payer dollars over the next ten years to impliment a system to analyze every single passanger on every single airline flight according to secret criteria in order to ascertain whether or not they may be a terrorist. Not only are those people selected that match your so-called terrorist profile, but others are selected PURELY RANDOMLY for this security check. I put it to you to demonstrate that this is substantially different from the Nazis requiring random checks of private citizens traveling through their territory. Can't do it? It's because you're trying to impliment the same goddamn fascist tactics that they are! Does anyone in your agency stop to think about the impact that this could have and the precedent that this could set for privacy of individual citizens in this country? Considering that this project has in large part been carried out by Northwest Airlines, and by your own admission, the cost of compliance with these regulations could put smaller airlines out of business, it sounds to me like your primary motivation is protecting the interests of a small number of companies at the expense of competition in the travel industry, not to mention increasing the length and breadth of the police state we live in today.

It boggles my mind that such a horrendously bad idea could even be considered in America. Let me remind you that your program will be funded with tax payer dollars, and us taxpayers will only tolerate so much oppression before we revolt. Remember the Boston Tea Party? Lexington and Concord?

Please, take a moment, step back, and ask yourself if it is worth giving up your basic human right to privacy in order to POTENTIALLY catch one, maybe two terrorists before they wise up and figure out your so-called "secret" criteria. My answer is absolutely not. And I will not support any administration that allows it to take place.

Sincerely,
 Ian Monroe



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OFFICE OF THE
 CHIEF COUNSEL
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
 TRANSPORTATION
 MAY 26 A 9:59